

Practitioner's Docket No. 7038.3011.001**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent application

of _____

Inventor(s) _____

for _____

Title of invention _____

the specification of which is being transmitted herewith

OR

In re application of: Kenneth James Bunker

Application No.: 010 / 089,011 Group No.:

Filed: March 25, 2002 Examiner:

For: SINTERED STEEL MATERIAL

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GROUP 5000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10***

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Nicole R. Schmoltz

Date: June 27, 2002

Nicole R. Schmoltz

(type or print name of person certifying)

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 1 of 13)

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant within any one of the following time periods:

(1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);

(2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application;

(3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits; or

(4) Before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114."

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) each inventor named in the application;

(2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c).

NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(d).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly FORM PTO-1449)
3. ☐ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☐ Cumulative Patents or Publications
6. ☒ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7. ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
 - 7A. ☐ EPO Search Report
 - 7B. ☐ English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. ☐ Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

(complete the following, if appropriate)

Sections _____, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).

NOTE: "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 2 of 13)

Section 1. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 16/089,011	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexam BUNKER	
	Examiner GRAHAM	Art Unit 3683	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY ¹	Name	Classification ²
A	6,003,640	12/21/1999	RALEA	188 31.5
B				
C				
D				
E				
F				
G				
H				
I				
J				
K				
L				
M				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY ¹	Country	Name	Classification ²
N					
O					
P					
Q					
R					
S					
T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*	Include, as applicable: Author, Title, Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages
U	
V	
W	
X	

* A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. See MPEP § 707.05(a).

¹ Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates.

² Classifications may be U.S. or foreign.

Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under § 1.97 shall include:
"A legible copy of:

- (i) Each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent;
- (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed;
- (iii) For each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion. . ."



Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

(complete the following, if applicable)

- ☐ Exception(s) to above:
 - ☐ Items in prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.
 - ☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

(Information Disclosure Statement—Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying
This Statement [6-1]—page 12 of 13)

Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

The person making this statement is

(check each applicable item)

- (a) ☐ the inventor(s) who signs below

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

(type name of inventor who is signing)

- (b) ☐ an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c))

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

(type name of inventor who is signing)

- (c) ☒ the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information:

(check each applicable item)

- ☒ supplied by the inventor(s).
☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application. (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c))
☒ in the practitioner's file.

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Robert L. Stearns

(type or print name of practitioner)

5291 Colony Drive North

P.O. Address

Saginaw, Michigan 48603

Reg. No.: 36,937

Tel. No.: (989) 799-5300

Customer No.:

(Information Disclosure Statement—Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 13 of 13)



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet four of thirteen

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/089,011
Filing Date	March 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Kenneth James Bunker
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	7038.3011.001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
HCB		2,724,252		Schmal	11-22-1955	
		2,737,033		Bendall	03-06-1956	
		2,764,261		Bridges	09-25-1956	
		3,146,860		Wilson	09-01-1964	
		3,191,735		Wavak	06-29-1965	
		3,233,704		Strain et al	02-08-1966	
		3,642,101		Hauth	02-15-1972	
		3,754,624		Eldred	08-28-1973	
		3,837,420		Kobelt	09-24-1974	
		3,844,385		Szekely	10-29-1974	
		3,861,501		Brooks et al	01-21-1975	
		3,915,272		Maurice	10-28-1975	
		4,256,209		Lupertz	03-17-1981	
		4,318,306		Fischer	03-09-1982	
		4,479,569		Kummer et al	10-30-1984	
		4,534,457		Eltze et al	08-13-1985	
		4,576,255		Mery et al	03-18-1986	
		4,673,065		Gerard et al	06-16-1987	
		4,699,254		Mery	10-13-1987	
HCB		4,784,244		Carre et al	11-15-1988	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
HCB			00/09900	WO	PCT	02-24-2000		
			00/09903	WO	PCT	02-24-2000		
			00/09904	WO	PCT	02-24-2000		
			00/09905	WO	PCT	02-24-2000		
			00/09909	WO	PCT	02-24-2000		
			00/09911	WO	PCT	02-24-2000		
			00/42332	WO	PCT	07-20-2000		
			01/03295	WO	PCT	01-11-2001		
HCB			01/15948	WO	PCT	03-08-2001		

Examiner Signature

H.C. GRIMMAN

Date Considered

9-18-2003

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/089,011
Filing Date	March 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Kenneth James Bunker
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	7038.3011.001

Sheet five of thirteen

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
1746		4,844,206		Casey	07-04-1989	
		4,863,000		Patel	09-05-1989	
		4,865,160		Casey	09-12-1989	
		4,865,162		Morris et al	09-12-1989	
		5,005,676		Gassiat	04-09-1991	
		5,358,079		Brown	10-25-1994	
		5,402,865		Harker	04-04-1995	
		5,674,026		Ishibashi et al	10-07-1997	
		6,056,089		Karlsson et al	05-02-2000	
		6,131,932		Bunker	10-17-2000	
1746		6,223,863		Bunker	05-01-2001	
		6,224,391		Bunker	06-12-2001	
		6,247,560		Bunker	06-19-2001	
		6,298,953		Bunker	10-09-2001	
		6,305,510		Bunker	10-23-2001	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
1746			01/33096	WO	PCT	05-10-2001		
			01/40671	WO	PCT	06-07-2001		
			01/86165	WO	PCT	11-15-2001		
			01/86167	WO	PCT	11-15-2001		
			83/01044	WO	PCT	03-31-1983		
			89/05924	WO	PCT	06-29-1989		
			96/18531	WO	PCT	06-20-1996		
			97/30295	WO	PCT	08-21-1997		
1746			97/20150	WO	PCT	06-05-1997		

Examiner
Signature

D. C. GRAMMAN


Date
Considered

9-18-2003

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Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	7038.3011.001

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	six	of	thirteen
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Attorney Docket Number	7038.3011.001
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
MCC			98/25804	WO	PCT	06-18-1998		
			98/26191	WO	PCT	06-18-1998		
			98/26192	WO	PCT	06-18-1998		
			662,071		GB	11-28-1951		
			949,018		GB	02-05-1964		
			1,091,693		GB	11-22-1967		
			1,139,699		GB	01-08-1969		
			1,350,350		GB	04-18-1974		
MCC			1,396,503		GB	06-04-1975		

A. C. GRAHAM

9.18.2003

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet	seven	of	thirteen
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Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	7038.3011.001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
DSC			1530461		GB	11-01-1978		
			2015122	A	GB	09-05-1979		
			2031538	A	GB	04-23-1980		
			2034834	A	GB	06-11-1980		
			2150263	A	GB	06-26-1985		
			2156201	A	GB	10-01-1985		
			2164712	A	GB	03-26-1986		
			2184801	A	GB	07-01-1987		
DSC			2307528	A	GB	05-28-1997		

**Examiner
Signature**

9/18/17. C. B. RIAHAF
2003

Date Considered

9/18/2003

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Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	7038.3011.001

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	eight	of	thirteen
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
HCB			2320299	A	GB	06-17-1998		
			2320300	A	GB	06-17-1998		
			2320301	A	GB	06-17-1998		
			2340561	A	GB	02-23-2000		
			2340562	A	GB	02-23-2000		
			2340563	A	GB	02-23-2000		
			2340564	A	GB	02-23-2000		
			2346940	A	GB	08-23-2000		
CYCH			2361969	A	GB	11-07-2001		

9-18. 2005

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Sheet	eleven	of	thirteen
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/089,011
Filing Date	March 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Kenneth James Bunker
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	7038.3011.001

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

R. C. GRAHAM

Date Considered

9. 18. 2000

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